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TC 1700 Case No. 421 P 037

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:) Examiner: Kevin R. Kruer Martina Wicher et al) Group Art Unit: 1773 Serial No. 09/785,955 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope Filed: February 16, 2001 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on DECEMBER 30, 2003 For: SUPPORT MATERIAL FOR (Date of Deposit) BANKS RECORDING LAYERS Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Rep. Signature

REPLY TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION IN CONTINUED EXAMINATION APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 23313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to the first Official Office Action(Paper No. 14), mailed September 3, 2003, in this continued examination application. A one (1) month extension of time for reply to January 3, 2004 has been granted by the enclosed Petition for Extension of Time.

At the time of the first Office Action, claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 15-18 and 20-25 were present as elected claims in the application. Of those claims, claims 1, 6 and 15 were independent claims. The remaining claims 12-14 were non-elected pursuant to an earlier